



# County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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SACHI A. HAMAI  
Interim Chief Executive Officer

September 10, 2015

Board of Supervisors  
HILDA L. SOLIS  
First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS  
Second District

SHEILA KUEHL  
Third District

DON KNABE  
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH  
Fifth District

To: Mayor Michael D. Antonovich  
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis  
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas  
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl  
Supervisor Don Knabe

From: Sachi A. Hamai  
Interim Chief Executive Officer

## SACRAMENTO UPDATE

### Executive Summary

This memorandum contains reports on the following:

- **Status of County-Sponsored Legislation**
  - **County-sponsored SB 461 (Hernandez)** - related to the relinquishment of a segment of State Highway Route 164 to Los Angeles County, passed the Senate Floor on September 1, 2015, and it now proceeds to the Governor.
- **Status of County-Advocacy Legislation.** Reports on five County-advocacy measures related to: 1) assaults against health care workers; 2) Lanterman-Petris-Short conservatorships; 3) unauthorized access to computer networks; 4) CalWORKs grants; and 5) voter registration.
- **Status of Legislation of County Interest.** Reports on five measures of County interest related to: 1) district-based elections; 2) expanding the California Voting Rights Act; 3) expedited ballot accounting; 4) State pre-clearance of local election laws; and 5) local government open data.
- **Medical Marijuana.** A report on legislation of County interest related to the regulation of medical marijuana.

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### **Status of County-Sponsored Legislation**

**County-sponsored SB 461 (Hernandez)**, which as amended on July 8, 2015, would authorize the California Transportation Commission to relinquish two adjoining sections of State Highway Route 164 located within the City of South El Monte and the unincorporated area of Whittier Narrows to the City of South El Monte and the County of Los Angeles, passed the Senate Floor by a vote of 40 to 1 on September 1, 2015. This measure now proceeds to the Governor.

### **Status of County-Advocacy Measures**

**County-supported AB 172 (Rodriguez)**, which as amended on September 1, 2015, would increase criminal penalties for an assault or battery committed against a health care worker who is providing services inside an emergency room, passed the Assembly Floor, in concurrence of Senate amendments, by a vote of 78 to 0 on September 9, 2015. This measure now proceeds to the Governor.

**County-opposed AB 193 (Maienschein)**, which as amended on September 2, 2015, would authorize the Probate Court to recommend Lanterman-Petris-Short conservatorship to a county conservatorship officer, passed the Assembly Floor, in concurrence of Senate amendments, by a vote of 79 to 0 on September 9, 2015. This measure now proceeds to the Governor.

**County-supported AB 195 (Chau)**, which as amended on June 23, 2015, would make it a crime for a person to solicit or to assist another to gain unauthorized access to a computer network, passed the Assembly Floor, in concurrence of Senate amendments, by a vote of 79 to 0 on September 8, 2015. This measure now proceeds to the Governor.

**County-supported SB 23 (Mitchell)**, which as introduced on December 1, 2014, would repeal the CalWORKs Program Maximum Family Grant rule effective January 1, 2016, and prohibit a CalWORKs applicant or recipient from being denied aid or an increase in the grant maximum aid payment for a child born into a family while receiving aid in the program, was held on the Assembly Floor on September 4, 2015, and it is now a two-year measure.

**County-supported SB 439 (Allen)**, which as amended on August 31, 2015, would permit conditional voter registration and provisional voting at satellite offices prior to an election day, and provide for the regulation of electronic poll books and

ballot-on-demand systems, passed the Senate Floor, in concurrence of Assembly amendments, by a vote of 26 to 13 on September 4, 2015. This measure now proceeds to the Governor.

### **Legislation of County Interest**

**AB 182 (Alejo, Bonta, and Hernández)**, which as amended on June 22, 2015, would prohibit the use of a district-based election in a political subdivision if it would impair the ability of a protected class to elect candidates of its choice, passed the Assembly Floor, in concurrence of Senate amendments, by a vote of 53 to 24 on September 8, 2015. This measure now proceeds to the Governor.

**AB 277 (Hernández)**, which as amended on April 7, 2015, would amend the California Voting Rights Act of 2001 definition of political subdivision to include charter cities and charter counties, passed the Senate Floor by a vote of 28 to 12 on September 3, 2015. This measure now proceeds to the Governor.

**AB 363 (Steinorth)**, which as amended on August 17, 2015, would authorize county election officials to process ballots at a central counting place before the closing of the polls, require county officials to notify the public of the delivery and transfer of ballots, and require the Secretary of State to adopt regulations addressing the secure delivery and transfer of ballots, passed the Assembly Floor, in concurrence of Senate amendments, by a vote of 79 to 0 on September 3, 2015. This measure now proceeds to the Governor.

**AB 1301 (Jones-Sawyer and Alejo)**, which as amended on May 12, 2015, would require Secretary of State pre-clearance of new local election laws, regulations, or policies, excluding changes to voting locations, passed the Senate Floor by a vote of 26 to 14 on September 3, 2015. This measure now proceeds to the Governor.

**SB 272 (Hertzberg)**, which as amended on September 2, 2015, would require local agencies, excluding local education agencies, to create a catalog of enterprise information systems, make the catalog publicly available, and post the catalog on the Internet, with exceptions for cyber-security risks, passed the Senate Floor, in concurrence of Assembly amendments, by a vote of 40 to 0 on September 8, 2015. This measure now proceeds to the Governor.

### **Legislation of County Interest - Medical Marijuana**

This legislative session, multiple bills have been introduced regarding the regulation of medical marijuana. These measures, **AB 266 (Bonta)**, **SB 643 (McGuire)**, and **AB 243 (Wood)**, which as amended on September 4, 2015, would expand the professional misconduct of physicians to include repeated acts of overprescribing medical marijuana.

As introduced, AB 266 and SB 643 would have established a comprehensive framework for the regulation and enforcement of medical marijuana (e.g. testing, transportation, dispensing, licensing, enforcement, and a stakeholder process to further develop regulations, etc.). AB 243 proposed to implement regulations to address the environmental impacts of medical marijuana cultivation on public and private lands.

Throughout the legislative session each of these measures progressed independently. In August 2015, these bills were amended to make the enactment of each measure contingent upon the passage of the others. On September 4, 2015, these bills were amended to include legislative intent language to: 1) enact a statewide comprehensive regulatory framework for medical marijuana; and 2) establish a dedicated funding source to address environmental damages of medical marijuana cultivation. As currently amended, the three measures are identical to each other, with the exception of AB 243 which contains an urgency provision to make this bill effective immediately if passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor. The Administration is in discussions with the Legislature and stakeholders to negotiate a compromise on a comprehensive regulatory framework for medical marijuana; however, proposed bill language is not yet in print.

The California State Association of Counties and the Urban Counties Caucus are advocating on behalf of counties to ensure that the medical marijuana bills contain provisions to preserve local control and to allow each local jurisdiction to retain its authority to ban, or to permit and regulate, medical marijuana within its borders.

AB 266 and AB 243 have been referred to the Senate Rules Committee and are awaiting referral to a policy committee. SB 643 is awaiting a hearing in the Assembly Business and Professions Committee.

**AB 567 (Gipson)**, which as introduced on September 4, 2015, would temporarily waive, for a six-month period, financial penalties or criminal actions against a medical cannabis dispensary currently operating without paying the appropriate taxes and interest owed. This measure further clarifies that a medical cannabis dispensary: 1) cannot employ a

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person under 21 years of age; 2) is limited to selling medical marijuana only at a licensed dispensary; and 3) is prohibited from using a third party to deliver medical marijuana. Currently, there is no support or opposition on file for this measure.

AB 567 has been referred to the Senate Rules Committee and is awaiting referral to a policy committee.

We will continue to keep you advised.

SAH:JJ:MR  
VE:IGEA:ma

c: All Department Heads  
Legislative Strategist  
Local 721  
Coalition of County Unions  
California Contract Cities Association  
Independent Cities Association  
League of California Cities  
City Managers Associations  
Buddy Program Participants